

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A ball dispensing apparatus, comprising:
a tubular container having a top end;
a ball interface coupled at said top end for dispensing a single ball from said top end;
and
said tubular container vertically positioning loaded balls at said ball interface.
2. The apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said ball interface includes a loading position, a dispensing position, and a storage position.
3. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein:
said tubular container has a substantially vertical longitudinal axis;
said ball interface includes a rotating turret with a flip top lid;
said rotating turret selectively slides about said axis from a closed position to said loading position;
said flip top lid operationally moves about an axis orthogonal to said longitudinal axis from a closed position to said dispensing position; and
said ball interface is in said storage position when said flip top lid and said rotating turret are in said closed position.

4. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said ball interface has a vertical apex and is configured to receive a plurality of balls during a loading phase and to deliver a single ball at said vertical apex during a dispensing phase.
5. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said ball interface has a selectively removable top to facilitate quick loading of said tubular container.
6. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said tubular container has a vertical adjustment mechanism configured to vertically position balls at said ball interface to dispense one ball at a time from said top end.
7. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said vertical adjustment mechanism has a piston disposed within said tubular container and at least one deformable spring operatively connected to said piston to move said piston toward said ball interface.
8. The apparatus according to of claim 1, wherein said ball interface has a lid movable between closed and dispensing positions and biased toward said closed position, said ball interface dispensing a single ball each time said lid is moved from said dispensing position to said closed position.
9. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said ball interface and said tubular container are sized to accommodate balls selected from the group consisting of

golf balls, ping pong balls, tennis balls, racquet balls, squash balls, billiard balls, polo balls, hand balls, baseballs, basketballs, and other substantially round sport balls.

10. A system for individually dispensing golf balls, comprising:
 - at least one golf ball; and ✓
 - a golf ball dispenser having:
 - a substantially cylindrical tube having a top end and defining a substantially circular cavity configured to contain said at least one golf ball;
 - a selectively movable golf ball interface disposed at said top end for dispensing a golf ball from said top end; and
 - a vertical positioning mechanism aligning said at least one golf ball within said substantially cylindrical tube.
11. The system according to claim 10, wherein said selectively removable top end has a dispensing cap.
12. The system according to claim 11, wherein said dispensing cap, upon actuation, dispenses a single golf ball.
13. The system according to claim 12, wherein said dispensing cap is biased to a closed position.

14. The system according to claim 12, wherein said dispensing cap rotates about an axis from a closed position to a dispensing position.
15. The system according to claim 10, wherein said substantially cylindrical tube includes a slotted groove for locking said vertical positioning mechanism.
16. The system according to in claim 10, wherein said vertical positioning mechanism has a compression spring mechanism positioning said at least one golf ball within said substantially cylindrical tube.
17. The system according to claim 10, further comprising a golf equipment bag supporting said golf ball dispenser in a substantially vertical position.
18. The system according to claim 17, further comprising:
 - a golf cart supporting said golf equipment bag in a substantially vertical position, said golf cart being selected from the group consisting of push carts, pull carts, electric motorized carts, golf cars, and riding carts; and
 - said golf ball dispenser being positioned in a substantially vertical position on said cart to dispense said at least one golf ball from said top end.
19. A ball dispensing apparatus, comprising:

a substantially vertically oriented tubular container having a top end and
defining a cavity within to allow passage of at least one ball
therethrough ; and
a ball interface disposed at said top end for dispensing a single ball from said
top end.

20. The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said substantially vertically oriented tubular container includes a connecting device adapted to connect said dispensing apparatus at least to a golf bag.
21. The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said substantially vertically oriented tubular container includes a supporting device adapted to support said dispensing apparatus at least in a substantially vertical orientation.